



Ottawa County Clerk's Association

Meeting February 10, 2023 – 12:00 PM
Zeeland Charter Township, 6542 Byron Road, Zeeland, MI 49464

Present:

Sally Bareman	Port Sheldon Township	Simone Johnson	Ottawa County
Maria Boersma	City of Grand Haven	Brenda Katerberg	City of Holland
Carolyn Boersma	Spring Lake Township	Skip Keeter	Park Township
Judy Bouws	Georgetown Township	Jeanne Knol	Georgetown Township
Lona Bronkema	Olive Township	Kate Kraak	Zeeland Township
Lydia Brown	City of Coopersville	Renee Kuiper	Ottawa County
Sue Dalman	Holland Charter Township	Jane Longstreet	Robinson Township
Mike Dalman	Holland Charter Township	Jennifer Mokma	Blendon Township
Teresa DeGraaf	Port Sheldon Township	Natasha Myers	KCI
Candy DeHaan	Jamestown Township	Amber Reagan	Georgetown Township
Kristi DeVerney	Grand Haven Township	Justin Roebuck	Ottawa County
Daniele Dykens	Park Township	Chris Sadler	Robinson Township
Theresa Frank	Wright Township	Amber Schaner	City of Ferrysburg
Kathy Grimm	City of Holland	Madison Schnaidt	Ottawa County
Jill Gruppen	City of Hudsonville	Elizabeth Szymanski	Allendale Charter Township
Jody Hansen	Allendale Charter Township	Sara Talsma	Olive Township
Cindy Humphrey	City of Zeeland	Matt Van Staveren	Spectrum Printers Inc
		Sarah Wilson	Zeeland Township

President Teresa DeGraaf called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.
Justin Roebuck gave the invocation.

OCCA Business

- 23.01** Daniele Dykens, with support from Candy DeHaan, moved to approve the agenda Motion Passed
- 23.02** Jody Hansen, with support from Mike Dalman, moved to approve the Minutes of the December 9, 2022 meeting. Motion Passed
- 23.03** Kathy Grimm, with support from Elizabeth Szymanski, moved to accept the Treasurer's Report of February 1, 2023, showing a balance of \$5,955.87. Motion Passed

Teresa DeGraaf, President
Port Sheldon Township
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616-399-6121

Jill Gruppen, Vice President
City of Hudsonville
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Kristi DeVerney, Treasurer
Grand Haven Charter Township
13300 168th Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417
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Brenda Katerberg, Secretary
City of Holland
270 S River Avenue
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OCCA Discussion

1. Brenda Katerberg provided information from the group representing OCCA who are in conversation with State legislators and others about the implications of Proposal 2022-2. This group consists of the current officers and Jody Hansen, Past President. Highlights include:
 - Desire to represent all OCCA members. Group is using the spreadsheet of previously expressed concerns to guide their discussion and recommendations.
 - Very thankful for the time and reception of our concerns by Representatives Ann Bollin, Luke Meerman, and Rachelle Smit.
 - Concerns have been broken down into these categories:
 - Universal Voter List for Absent Ballots
 - Early Voting
 - MOVE Ballots – returns 6 days after Election Day
 - Postage for return of ballots and applications
 - Other Concerns
 - Names of State Representatives and Senators were provided so that OCCA members may contact them
 - Sheet of more specific information was provided and will also be mailed to all OCCA members so that they have ready access to contact information
 - Anyone with any more concerns should contact a member of the OCCA group.
2. Jill Gruppen gave an update on the recent presentation of the MAMC to the State House Elections Committee. Those who viewed the presentation were pleasantly surprised that MAMC included many items the OCCA had submitted to MAMC, and also seemed to represent views very similar to OCCA, including:
 - Expanding precinct size to 5,000, in anticipation of smaller turnout at the polls on election days
 - Setting up a State bulk mailing permit for application and ballot returns, so that locals do not need to tally and wait for reimbursement
 - Concerns for smaller jurisdictions with legislation to establish guidelines, while leaving room for flexibility and best practices to best meet needs of local jurisdictions
 - OCCA did NOT agree with recommendation to keep both a Perm AV list and a Perm Ballot list
3. OCCA President Teresa DeGraaf asked members to sign up for work groups to meet at their convenience to discuss the topics of concern regarding Proposal 2. She also encouraged members to reach out to your Ottawa County Board Commissioner about elections, because there is a trickle down of election funding to the locals from the County, and the commissioners need to hear from local clerks about election truths.

Ottawa County Clerk Updates

1. County Clerk Justin Roebuck showed off his Ronald Reagan socks and praised the OCCA members for their initiative to address Proposal 2 legislation. He presented thoughts and concerns of his own as well as heard concerns from members, including:
 - Contact State legislators, including Democrats
 - Emphasize the need for funding. The bulk of election costs will be on the locals; the governor's office is not getting the funding piece

- How can Ottawa County help? Partner with early voting efforts? Coordinate ballot production? Use of 1 FTE to coordinate some aspect?
 - Cost analysis is needed for true cost of an election and also projected costs expected due to Prop 2 requirements
 - QVF needs bolstering!
 - Need to minimize voter confusion with all the changes and when they will be implemented
2. Clerk Roebuck introduced Madison Schnaidt, who is now an Elections Assistant in the Ottawa County Clerk's office.
 3. Clerk Roebuck gave updates on the Hart elections equipment.
 - Preventative Maintenance will take place in June, which will include programming updates.
 - Modems will be eliminated from all machines.
 - Discussion is needed about how to get V-drives to the County on election night.
 - Small blue bags now all have GPS tracking tags in them.
 4. May elections should be conducted in the same way as previous elections, since no other instructions have come down from the State.
 5. Clerk Roebuck is making the rounds to all City and Township Board meetings and plans to speak during the Public Comment portion of the meetings.

Association Member Comments

1. Jennifer Venema from Michigan Township Participating Plan passed on information about various grants available through her organization. She highlighted that educational reimbursement is now offered.
2. Natascha Myers from KCI described services offered through her company, including trackable mail options and other mail services for ballot applications and absentee ballots.

23.04 Candy DeHaan, with support from Theresa Frank, moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Passed

Next meeting is Friday, April 14, 2023 at Olive Township.